GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2663
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2008
EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gap between import and export of agricultural produce of the country is constantly declining;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is offering any concessions to the exporters to boost the export of agricultural produce of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has recently launched any scheme for the promotion of agricultural export; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

a)& b) Trend of gap between export and import of major agricultural commodities for the last three years is given below:

(Value: in Rs. lakhs)

S.No.	Major Commodities	2005-06			2006-07			2007-08		
		Export	Import	Gap	Export	Import	Gap	Export	Import	Gap
1	Rice	622127	34	622093	703591	41	703550	1173100	42	1173058
2	Wheat	55753	0	55753	3535	585049	-581514	23	265751	-265728
3	Pulses	111521	247625	-136104	77334	389191	-311857	52695	527802	-475107
4	Sugar	56910	65159	-8249	312746	348	312398	540417	229	540188
	Others	2235888	1336337	899551	2711994	1430185	1281809	3488019	1517978	1970041
	Total	3082199	1649155	1433044	3809200	2404814	1404386	5254254	2311802	2942452

Source: DGCI&S

c) to f) In order to promote exports of agricultural produce Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana has been introduced under the Foreign Trade Policy. The Scheme provides an incentive upon exports of identified products in the form of freely transferable duty credit scrip @ 5% of FOB value of exports. To ensure that the products manufactured/processed out of domestic inputs are incentivised at a higher rate in comparison to the duty free imported inputs, duty credit has been reduced to 3.5% of the FOB value of exports in such cases where the exporter avails the benefit under Duty Free import of Agriculture Inputs (Other than catalysts, consumable and packing materials).

In order to boost exports of flowers, fruits and vegetables these products shall be entitled to an additional duty credit scrip equivalent to 2.5% of FOB value of exports, over and above the 5%/3% VKGUY entitlement with effect from 1st April, 2008. There are about 800 products covered under this Scheme as listed in Appendix 37A of Hand Book of Procedure (Vol.I) which is available at DGFT website: dgft.Delhi:nic.in.